President’s Message

Happy New Year! This is my first newsletter as SAWH president, and I consider it an honor to fill this position and have a chance to update you on the organization’s activities.

I hope that all of you were able to attend the SAWH talk and reception at the Southern Historical Association this fall in Richmond, Virginia. If not, you missed a fascinating presentation by Michele Gillespie and wonderful reception, in honor of Michele and outgoing SAWH president Cindy Kierner. Sandy Treadway graciously opened up the Library of Virginia for the festivities and even provided a band. The combination of good scholarship, good food, good music, and good company in a beautiful space made for a great time.

Thanks to the work of Jennifer McDaid, who coordinated the book sale, and volunteers Heidi Giusto, Felicity Turner, and Kelly Kennington, the SAWH cleared a record amount at the book sale. Many thanks also to everyone who came to the event, bought books, and made the sale such a success.

For those of you who have not visited the SAWH web site recently, I would recommend that you do so. There you will find links to the mentoring took kit, a series of essays on various professional topics, intended to provide guidance to members at various stages of their careers. We are all in debt to Antoinette Van Zelm and her committee for their leadership in this effort, particularly in establishing the series’ uniquely effective voice, one that avoids the all-too-familiar didactic and instead combines humor with insight.

Following in the spirit of the mentoring toolkit, the ad hoc SAWH teaching committee, led by Nupur Chauduri, is creating a new site for members to post and share information about teaching. The committee has done a wonderful, inventive job, as you will see in the article in this newsletter, by committee members Elizabeth Dunn and Elsa Barkley Brown, outlining the project’s plans. The site is still under construction and not yet ready to open up to the membership, so we encourage members to contact the committee members with their thoughts and ideas.

The Eighth Southern Conference on Women’s History will be held on the campus of the University of South Carolina, in Columbia, June 4-6, 2009. Marjorie Spruill, the conference organizer, has been busily (and successfully) raising money and already has most of the organizational issues well in hand. You will find the call for papers by program co-chairs Allison Sneider and Joan Johnson in this newsletter. Everyone is encouraged to put together a panel—H-SAWH provides a forum for those who are looking for others with similar interests for panels. Conferences are one of the highlights of the SAWH: so please mark your calendars and make to participate.

Finally, I would like to remind you about the increase in dues, effective this year. Hopefully, you have received the letter announcing the change already. But the Executive Council considers the decision an important one, so I want to reiterate the reasoning here. The increases are as follows: from the current $5.00 to $10.00 for graduate students; from $18.00 to $25.00 for regular members; from $200.00 to $250.00 for life members. The Executive Council also agreed to create a new “sustaining life member” category, to encourage and enable life members to contribute yearly to the organization in addition to their one-time membership. The increase will take effect for all those paying dues on January 1, 2008.

The SAWH’s operating budget depends on members’ dues. Although the organization is in excellent financial shape, most of our reserves are dedicated to special projects and cannot be used for basic operating expenses, which have been increasing as the organization expands. We have been very successful in raising funds for our various awards, including the new Anne Firor Scott award. The mentoring committee has prepared an impressive set of essays—a mentoring “tool kit”—that is now available through the SAWH site on H-Net. And the new teaching committee is in the process of preparing an interactive web site with syllabi, teaching materials, and links to other sites. We are excited about all these projects; we hope that you are as well. But everything we do adds to our administrative costs. At the same time, the dedication of our members has produced some unforeseen effects: a welcome flurry of new life members, who pay a one-time lump sum, means that we have fewer members paying yearly dues. To keep our operation going and to cover new programs, we need more and more regular income.

The dues increase adds just $5.00 more for graduate students, $7.00 for regular members, and $50 for life memberships. Even with these increases, our dues structure remains much lower than that of most professional organizations. And we would like to continue doing more for our members than other organizations. So we hope that you will understand—and support—the dues increase.

Laura F. Edwards
SAWH President
Pedagogical Resources

Created in December of 2006, the SAWH Ad Hoc Committee on Teaching was charged to find ways to support the teaching of SAWH members. We have begun to build a wiki to be linked to the SAWH website and are in the process of finalizing arrangements for security and adding content: syllabi for various survey-level courses, first-person essays concerning different aspects of teaching, brief responses to questions about teaching issues, and critical reviews of technological applications. The committee will also plan a workshop or roundtable on teaching for the June 2009 SAWH conference.

Please contact committee chair Nupur Chaudhuri, nupurc@earthlink.net to:

- Recommend topics and types of material for the wiki
- Contribute your own syllabi or descriptions of creative assignments
- Suggest names of particularly excellent teachers who might be willing to contribute an essay or participate in the conference program

Elizabeth Dunn, for the Committee

New Members

Katherine McVane Armstrong, Emory University
Jill Bouchillon, Converse College
Jessica Brown, Florida State University
Erica A. Bruchko, Emory University
Sarah Burns, Florida State University
Paige Riquelmy Cassidy, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Jennifer Donnally, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Cathleen Edge, University of North Carolina-Greensboro
Mary Jo Fairchild, South Carolina Historical Society/College of Charleston
Jurretta Jordan Heckscher, Library of Congress
Amy Hodgin, Independent Scholar
Alice H. Lachaussee, Spring Hill College and Tulane University
Lesley McCollough, University of Tulsa
Cecelia Moore, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Abigail C. Myers, Clemson University
Tonya Parham, University of Memphis
Lydia Plath, University of Warwick
Tammy Prater, University of Memphis
Jennifer Prichard, Angelo State University
Marly Ramsour, Baylor University
Elizabeth Smith, Middle Tennessee State University
Andrea S. Watkins, Northern Kentucky University

Heidi Giusto’s name was incorrectly listed in last newsletter’s member news; we apologize for the oversight!

Have you renewed your membership for 2008?

Please fill out and mail the membership form to:

Megan Shockley, SAWH Secretary; Department of History
Catherine Algor (University of California-Riverside) has been promoted to full professor.

Willoughby Anderson (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill) received an American Association of University Women American Dissertation Fellowship for 2007-2008. In addition, her comment, “The Past on Trial: Birmingham, the Bombing, and Restorative Justice,” was accepted for publication by the California Law Review.


Sidney Bland (James Madison University) has had an article, “Shaping the Life of the New Woman: The Crusading Years of The Delineator,” accepted for publication in American Periodicals and also provided the address, “The Madison Century,” to open the 2007-08 academic and centennial year.

Katherine Davis Cann (Spartanburg Methodist College) had her book Common Ties: A History of Textile Industrial Institute published in September 2007 by Hub City Writers’ Project. It examines the history of the Textile Industrial Institute at Spartanburg Junior College and Spartanburg Methodist College. She has also been appointed Chair of the Division of Social Sciences at SMC.

Lee A. Farrow (Auburn University Montgomery) has recently published “From Jackson Square to Red Square: Donald Renshaw and Famine Relief in Russia, 1921-1923,” (in Russian) in Russia and the World Through One Another’s Eyes (Moscow: Institute of Russian History, 2007). She has also been appointed Associate Dean of the School of Liberal Arts for the Term 2007-2009.


Elizabeth Gritter (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill) received a $1000 Graduate Student Opportunity Fund from the UNC-Chapel Hill Graduate School and a $1000 Student Life Enhancement Fund from the UNC-Chapel Hill of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs for taking a civil rights bus tour related to her dissertation research and civil rights studies. She also received a $400 grant from the social justice organization, for her dissertation research in Memphis, and a $200 from the Y, a social justice campus organization.

Barbara Krauthamer (New York University) was a co-recipient of the 2007 Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Article Prize, awarded by the Association of Black Women Historians for an article published in the Journal of Women’s History in 2007.

Charlene Boyer Lewis (Kalamazoo College) received an NEH Summer Stipend to work on her book project, “Elizabeth Patterson Bonaparte and American Culture in the Early Republic.” She also became chair of the History Department in July.

Leslie Kemp Poole (University of Florida) was the 2007 recipient of the Leland Hawes award for the best graduate student paper from the Tampa Bay History Society; she was also the recipient of the Jack and Celia Proctor Prize from the University of Florida History Department for a graduate student doing research in Florida/Southern history.

Tammy Prater (University of Memphis) will be presenting research, entitled “‘To Share in all the Blessings of our Freedom’: The Concerned Women of Memphis and Shelby County and the Embodiment of Great Society Ideology” at the WomeNet conference at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville.


Constance Schulz (University of South Carolina) will be retiring in May 2008. She received an NEH Summer Institute for College Teachers grant and ran a successful four-week institute on African American history as public history in South Carolina during July of 2007.

Melissa Walker (Converse College) led two week-long seminars funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities which attracted 100 public school teachers from across the country to the Upstate to learn about the crucial role South Carolina played in the American Revolution in July 2007. In September 2007, she was named the college’s first George Dean Johnson Jr. Chair in History. Also this fall, her book Southern Farmers and Their Stories was awarded an Outstanding Academic Title Award from Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries for its excellence in scholarship and its value to undergraduate students. Melissa also received the Scholarly and Creative Achievement Award from Converse, and was named the 2007 Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education South Carolina Professor of the Year.

Elizabeth Whitaker (Independent Scholar) received her M.A. in December 2007 and moved to the D.C. area in January. She is now living in Alexandria, Virginia and is continuing her search for employment and applying to Ph.D. programs in cultural studies.
Exhibit


Eight Southern Association of Women’s Historians Conference on Women’s History
June 4-6, 2009
Call for Papers

The SAWH invites proposals for the Eighth Southern Conference on Women’s History, to be held on the campus of the University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. The conference provides a stimulating and congenial forum for the discussion of all aspects of women’s history. Its program seeks to reflect the best in recent scholarship, especially by young scholars and graduate students. The program also wishes to reflect the diversity of women’s historical experiences and to explore the histories of women from a wide range of racial, class, and ethnic backgrounds. Proposals in Public History are especially welcome.

The Program Committee solicits proposals for complete panels and individual papers, as well as roundtable sessions. Proposals for panels or sessions should include the following: a) a cover sheet with the session title, paper titles, and name, address, affiliation, and email addresses of the chair, panelists, and commentator, b) a 300 word summary of the panel or session as a whole, c) a 300 word proposal for each paper or presentation, and d) a brief (one page) curriculum vitae for each participant. Individual paper proposals should include the following: a) a cover sheet with the paper title, and name address, affiliation, and email address of the panelist b) a 300 word proposal, and c) a brief (one page) curriculum vitae. Those interested in chairing a session or commenting are also invited to send a c.v. to the Program Committee.

All materials and attachments should be emailed to the program committee at SAWH2009@gmail.com. Your email should include your name, affiliation, phone and email address; please send the supporting materials (cover sheet, proposal and cv) in a MS Word attachment. (Email inquiries may be directed to committee co-chairs Joan Johnson at joanmjjohnson@comcast.net or Allison Sneider at sneider@rice.edu.) The deadline for receipt of all materials is August 1, 2008.

Foundation

Colleagues of the late historian Ruthe Winegarten have formed the Ruthe Winegarten Memorial Foundation for Texas Women’s History. It is a 501 c(3) organization based in Austin. The website for the organization is under construction and will appear in the spring as womenintexashistory.org.

SAWH PUBLICATION PRIZES

We invite submissions for our annual publications prizes. To be eligible, entries must be in English, but are not restricted to publications in the U.S.

Books

The Julia Cherry Spruill Prize for $750 is awarded for the best published book in southern women’s history, broadly construed. The Willie Lee Rose Prize of $750 is awarded for the best book on any topic in southern history authored by a woman (or women). For both of these prizes, only monographs are eligible. Books with a copyright date of 2007 are eligible for the prizes.

Articles

The A. Elizabeth Taylor Prize is awarded annually for the best article published during the preceding year in the field of southern women’s history. Articles published in journals and anthologies between January 1 and December 31, 2007 are eligible. Editors, scholars, and authors are invited to nominate eligible articles for the prize. SELF NOMINATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED!!!

To Nominate a Publication:

Four (4) copies of each entry must be mailed to the following address no later than April 1, 2008, and all entries must be clearly marked with the name of the prize competition being entered. Please mail submissions to: Megan Taylor Shockley, Department of History, 126 Hardin Hall, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634
The SAWH is grateful for the loyalty and commitment of our life members:

Catherine Allgor
American Historical Association

Thomas Appleton, Jr.

Leah Atkins

Eva Baham

Nancy Baird

Paula Barnes

Georgia R. Beale

Patricia Bell-Scott

Judith Bennett

Kathleen Berkeley

Virginia Bernhard

Daina Ramey Berry

Emily Bingham

Annette Cheek Bishop

Julia Blackwelder

Carol Blaser

Angela Boswell

Edith Brady

Patricia Brady

Betty Brandon

Martha Jane Brazy

Euline Brock

Joan Browning

Carole Bucy

June Burton

O. Vernon Burton

M. Yolanda Burwell

Victoria Bynum

Linda Cahin

Stephanie Camp

Stephanie Carpenter

Jo Ann Carrigan

Nupur Chaudhuri

Catherine Clinton

Dept. of Women's Studies,
College of Staten Island

Cita Cook

Florence Corley

Janet Coryell

Lynda Crist

Carol Crowe-Carraco

Ruth Douglas Currie

Susan Curry

Jane Dailey

Christine Daniels

Mollie Davis

E. Murell Dawson

Jayne Crumpler Defiore

Dorothy DeMoss

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Kristen Fischer

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Elizabeth Fox-Genovese

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Ellen Garrison

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Michele Gillespie

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M. Rose Gladney

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Wanda Hendricks

Gaye Hewitt

Nancy Hewitt

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Marion Roydhouse

Dorothy Salem

Barbara Schnorrenberg

Mark Schultz

Constance Schulz

Marie Jenkins Schwartz

Rebecca Sharpless

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Alice Taylor-Colbert

Elizabeth Lee Thompson

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Zoe Van-Sandt

Nancy Vincent

Melissa Walker

Marilyn Ward

Western Association of Women Historians

Jeannie Whyane

Nancy White

Lee Ann Whites

Amy Whitworth

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Membership is $18 per year for regular members, and $5 per year for graduate students, retirees, and independent scholars. A lifetime membership is available for $200, payable in quarterly installments.
The SAWH especially welcomes as members women and men who are interested in southern history and/or women’s history, as well as all women historians in any field who live in the South.

If you would like to become a member or know of someone who would like to be a member of this dynamic organization, just fill out the enclosed membership form and mail it in with your check made payable to SAWH.

The SAWH Congratulates its 2007 Prize Winners

The Julia Cherry Spruill Prize for Best Book Published in Southern Women’s History
- Lorraine Gates Schuyler for The Weight of their Votes: Southern Women and Political Leverage in the 1920s

The Willie Lee Rose Prize for Best Book in Southern History Authored by a Woman
- Pippa Holloway for Sexual Politics and Social Control in Virginia, 1920-1945

The A. Elizabeth Taylor Prize for Best Article in Southern Women’s History
- Blain Roberts, “A New Cure for Brightleaf Tobacco: The Origins of the Tobacco Queen During the Great Depression” (Southern Cultures)

2008 Executive Council

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